



St Francis of Assisi

CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

11 FEBRUARY 2018

*Thin Places
Touching the
edge of
heaven*



1st Reading:

LEVITICUS 13: 1-2, 44-46

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

CORINTHIANS

10: 31-11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

MARK 1: 40-45

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

To obey or not to obey

The lesson to consider in this reading has to do with why Jesus did not want the healed leper to tell anyone about his healing. Jesus gave the healed leper the strong warning, "See that you don't tell this to anyone." But the former leper did not obey Jesus. He went straight out and freely spread the news. As a result of this man's disobedience, "Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places." Even in the lonely places, people came to him "from everywhere."

Quinquagesima Sunday

Today is the last Sunday before Lent. Ash Wednesday is only three days away. It is a good time to make sure that you are ready for Lent. At some times, and in some parts of the world, Quinquagesima had a semi-lenten character, because Lent started gradually rather than, as now, all at once on the Wednesday. The liturgy also reflected the coming start of Lent, and the liturgical colour was already violet.

The modern calendar has curbed this tendency of Lent to spread backwards, and there is no sign at all that this is the last Sunday of Ordinary Time for quite a few months. Nevertheless, it is still worth reflecting that Lent is coming very soon and we should make our plans for it.

Incidentally, *Quinquagesima* means 'fiftieth', and indeed if you count Easter as 1, and count backwards, you will reach exactly 50 when you get to today.

Liturgical colour—Green

The theological virtue of hope is symbolized by the colour green, just as the burning fire of love is symbolized by red. Green is the colour of growing things, and hope, like them, is always new and always fresh. Liturgically, green is the colour of Ordinary Time, the season in which we are being neither especially penitent (in purple) nor overwhelmingly joyful (in white).



**I turn to you
Lord, in time of
trouble, and you
fill me with the
joy of salvation.**

Ps 31

WELCOME
VISITORS,
to St Francis of
Assisi, Thames.

Whether you are
here for the first
time or visit
periodically you are
most welcome.

Please join us in
the Parish Centre
for morning tea
after
Mass.



Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Mt 24: 12)

"Perhaps, like ourselves, you are disturbed by the spread of iniquity in the world, you are concerned about the chill that paralyzes hearts and actions, and you see a weakening in our sense of being members of the one human family.

I urge us all to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.

" (Pope Francis - Lenten message 2018)

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

Ash Wednesday Mass

14th February

12:15pm in the Church

7pm St Pashals, Ngatea

7pm St Georges, Anglican Church

*Please bring last years palms by TODAY
and put in the box at the back of church*



St Patrick's Day

We will be joining with the
school for a great
celebration.

*To help with our fundraising—if
you have any items for our garage
sale stall, please see Robyn*



Each Wednesday during
Lent commencing

Wednesday 21st at

5.15pm

*The object of the Stations is to
help the faithful to make a spir-
itual pilgrimage of prayer,
through meditating upon the
chief scenes of Christ's sufferings
and death.*

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus is given his cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His Mother
5. Simon of Cyrene carries the cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus meets the daughters of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of His garments
11. Crucifixion: Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. Jesus' body is removed from the cross
14. Jesus is laid in the tomb and covered in incense.

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Can you help continue the tradition of giving?

Last weeks collection

Loose \$97.93

Pledge \$455

TOTAL \$552.93



RC Bishop of Auckland Parish Account Thames
02—0100—0120990 — 008

PLEASE NOTE: WE ONLY HAVE ONE COLLECTION

Have you considered giving
your gift to the Parish
through **Auto Payment?**

This is a way to show a
strong commitment to your
Parish. AP's continually
support even when you are
away on holiday.

WHAT
WILL YOU
GIVE UP FOR
Lent?

MINISTRY TRAINING

- **Training Day for**
- **Eucharist Ministers**
- **Readers**
- **Communion to the Sick**

Sunday 4th March

Starting with a shared
lunch at 12:00

(Thames attendees please bring a
plate)

The sessions will run from
12:30 -2:30 approx.

This day will be held at the
Parish Centre and is for new
and existing Ministers.

Please give your name to
Robyn at the
Parish Office

stfrancisthames@xtra.co.nz

CHURCH @ THE PARK



4-6PM
25
FEB
2018

Victoria Park
Thames



BYO PICNIC - BOUNCY CASTLES - LIVE MUSIC - TRAIN RIDES - SAUSAGE SIZZLE
HOSTED BY THE COMBINED CHURCHES OF THAMES

THE ALLIANCE OF THE HOLY FAMILY INTERNATIONAL

Welcomes the Visit of the INT'L CENTENNIAL PILGRIM IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Theme: "The Urgent Call for Prayer and Reparation:
The Appeal of Our Lady of Fatima"

St. Francis of Assisi

111 Baille St., Thames
Sunday, February 25, 2018

Schedule:

- 8:15 am Welcoming Procession to the altar
Imposition of Scapular, Rosary &
Crowning of Our Lady
St. John Paul II Consecration Prayer
- 8:30 am Holy Mass
Family Consecration to the Two Hearts
Investiture of the Brown Scapular
- 9:30 am Talk: "Answering the Urgent Call for
Prayer and Reparation by Living the
CARE Elements: Confession, Adoration,
Rosary & Eucharist."
- 10:00 am Rosary Procession

On the Centennial Anniversary of Our
Lady of Fatima, six (6) statues were
blessed by Pope Francis on January 11,
2017

As the "**International Centennial
Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of
Fatima.**" This was an initiative of two
global apostolates—the *Alliance of the
Holy Family International* and the
Human Life International- Austria.

These statues are to travel to the six
continents beginning in 2017 and for the
next three (3) years to promote Our
Blessed Mother's Message of PRAYER
and REPARATION for world peace and to
preserve the sanctity of family life.



Our Lady of Fatima with her Immaculate Heart
blessed by Pope Francis on January 11, 2017

AHFI@holylfamily333
YouTube AHFI Fatima 100years
Alliance of the Holy Family International

IN THE MAIL THIS WEEK

The Feb 11. – Feb. 24 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: What NZ's young people want from Church. New Maori leaders needed. Bishop Browne returns home to Auckland. Hearts Afire fosters deepening of faith. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on Feb. 25.

Public Talk – An evening with Raymond de Souza: Delegate for International Missions for Human Life International and EWTN host Raymond de Souza will be giving a public talk entitled "What is Good and Evil? Who Decides". Thursday 8th March at 7:00pm at the Holy Family Parish Hall, behind the Church at 94 Taikata Road, Te Atatu Peninsula. All welcome. For more information call us on 021 825 955.

40 Days for Life starts 14th February (Ash Wednesday): Are you feeling called to do something practical to build a culture of life and offer hope to the most vulnerable in our community? 40 Days for Life is one way you can make a real difference! Everyone can participate. Will you stand in prayer for just one hour this Lent for the unborn and their mothers? It is now time for you to sign up your hours at www.fli.org.nz/40daysforlife or text "40 Days" to 021 825 955. The Auckland vigil will run from **Ash Wednesday 14th February until**

Palm Sunday 25th March. From 8am till 8pm daily with small groups of volunteers coming together to pray in one-hour shifts on the sidewalk at 283-289 Dominion Road Mt. Eden across the road from AMAC abortion facility. For more information, please call Family Life International on (09) 629 4361 (Auckland) or (04) 237 8343 (Wellington) or contact Talia on 02102979921 (Christchurch).

"Does New Zealand need a Constitution?" Come and listen to Professor Margaret Wilson, DCNZM – University of Waikato Speak on this thought provoking subject at the **Thames War Memorial Civic Centre , Conference Room (ground floor)**

Mary Street, Thames

Wednesday 28 February 2018 at 10:00am

Proudly supported by WINEC



WEEKLY CHURCH ROSTERS

Readers

11 FEB	Lyn Hopkins	Mike Hopkins
18 FEB	Gill Benton	Shelley Johnson

Ministers of the Eucharist & Sacristans

11 FEB	Elizabeth Govorko	Mary Connors
18 FEB	Richard Sumner	Geraldine Sumner

Priest's Assistant

11 FEB	Judy Thomas
18 FEB	Jenny Cooper

MORNING TEA

11 FEB	Team Lois
18 FEB	Team Eileen

CHURCH CLEANING

FEB WK 3	Indian Group
MARCH WK 1	Gill Benton / Frank Schnuriger / Mary Wenzlick

FLOWERS

FEB	Judy Thomas / Pauline Jenkison
MARCH	Mary Dixon / Pat Feliciano

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Tues 13th	9:15am—Liturgy in the Chapel
Ash Wednesday 14th	12:15am— School Mass in the Church 5pm—Ecumenical Service, St Colmans, Coromandel 7pm—Mass, St Pashals, Ngatea 7pm—St Georges Anglican Church
Thurs 15th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Fri 16th	12:15pm—Mass in the Chapel
Sat 17th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sun 18th	8:30am—Mass in the Church

PARISH INFORMATION

Fr Valarian D'Souza— Parish Priest
Fr Albert Pandu—Asst Priest
Presbytery
111 Baillie Street, Thames 3500
Ph. 868 6169

Pastoral Care

Sister Paula Cronin
2/103 Clarence Street, Thames 3500
Ph 868 6310 **Mobile:** 021 206 8062
Email: sisterp3@outlook.com

Parish Office

111 Baillie Street, Thames 3500
Robyn Smith (Administrator)
Ph. 868 9407 **Mobile:** 027 291 5165
Email: stfrancisthames@xtra.co.nz

www.coromandelcatholic.org.nz

St. Francis School
Principal: Geraldine Sumner
Ph. 868 7655

Parish Leadership Team
Margaret Mabey **Ph.** 868 9818
margmabey@xtra.co.nz

Ministry to the Sick/Elderly
Eileen Campbell (Coordinator) **Ph** 8687473

Catholic Women's League'
Lois Wright **Ph** 868 6600
1st Thursday of the month at Parish Centre

LITURGICAL TIMES

Sunday Mass

8.30 am

Tuesday–Thursday & Saturday Mass

9.15 am

Thursday

9.15am. Mass, Exposition, Benediction & Reconciliation.

Friday

12.15pm

Reconciliation

During Exposition, Thursdays
Saturdays after 9.15 am Mass.